

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes _____
no X

Property Name: Rodney's Purchase Inventory Number: D-108
Address: 3305 Ocean Gateway (US 50) Historic district: yes X no
City: Cambridge, MD Zip Code: 21613-4419 County: Dorchester
USGS Quadrangle(s): Cambridge, East New Market
Property Owner: Elvin D. and Doris E. Thomas, Trustees Tax Account ID Number: 006877
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 272 Tax Map Number: 42
Project: US 50: Cambridge Maintenance Shop Agency: Maryland State Highway Administration
Agency Prepared By: Architectural Historian, SHA
Preparer's Name: Anne E. Bruder Date Prepared: 03/20/2006
Documentation is presented in: Project Review and Compliance Files
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: _____ Eligibility recommended X Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: X A B X C D Considerations: A B C D E F G
Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:
Name of the District/Property: _____
Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: yes Listed: yes
Site visit by MHT Staff yes X no Name: _____ Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

Rodney's Purchase was first inventoried in 1972 and then again in 1975 by Michael J. Bourne for the Maryland Historical Trust, using the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) form. It is an 87-acre farm located three miles south and east of the City of Cambridge. It has been owned by the Thomas Family for more than fifty years. The 1877 Lake, Griffing and Stevenson notes the property owner as T. C. Ross.

There are outbuildings which were not previously described in either the 1972 or the 1975 forms. Outbuildings include a wood barn with a metal side gable roof, a shed or corncrib with a metal side gable roof and four vents on the north side of the roof, and the building is on brick piers. The third agricultural building is a masonry silo with a low dome. Although the fields surrounding the house are plowed, the agricultural outbuildings are not in use and are in poor condition. The silo in particular is overgrown with weeds and vines.

There are also two sheds and a garage immediately on the south side of the building. These are the same yellow color as the house and are in good repair.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____ Eligibility not recommended X
Criteria: A B C D Considerations: A B C D E F G

MHT Comments:

Ann Tarkenton
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

Blunt
Reviewer, National Register Program

8/4/06

Date

8/7/06

Date

200602161

Although the original portion of Rodney's Purchase dates to the early nineteenth century and is an example of a one-and-one-half story vernacular design dwelling in Dorchester County, the building has been continuously renovated during the past one hundred fifty years. Likewise, although the agricultural outbuildings remain in place, they are unused, the fields are rented to another farmer, and the farm has lost its association with the history of farming in Dorchester County. As a result, Rodney's Purchase lacks integrity of material, design, workmanship and association. Additional research conducted did not find association with events or persons of local, state or national significance and Rodney's Purchase is not eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criteria A or B. As a result of lost original fabric, Rodney's Purchase is not eligible under NRHP Criterion C. Criterion D, information potential, was not included in this study.

Rodney's Purchase's historic boundary is confined to the 87 acre parcel identified on the 2005 Dorchester County Tax Map 42, Parcel 272, on the south side of the intersection of US 50 at MD 16.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

MHT Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services_____
Date_____
Reviewer, National Register Program_____
Date

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties

Addendum

MIHP Number: D-108
Property Name: Rodney's Purchase
Property Address: 3305 Ocean Gateway (US 50), Cambridge, MD 21613-4419

Rodney's Purchase is an 87-acre farm located three miles south and east of the City of Cambridge. It has been owned by the Thomas Family for more than fifty years. The 1877 Lake, Griffing and Stevenson notes the property owner as T. C. Ross. Rodney's Purchase was first inventoried in 1972 and then again in 1975 by Michael J. Bourne for the Maryland Historical Trust, using the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) form. The two MIHP forms differ about how much of the building was constructed in the early nineteenth century. The 1972 form states that it was a 3-bay house, while the 1975 form states that it was a two-bay house following initial construction. In 2006, Rodney's Purchase remains a 5-bay house -- three bays in the main pile and two bays in the east wing. The east wing continues to extend beyond the rear of the southern portion of the building, as pictured in the MIHP photograph. As a result of the east wing's construction in the nineteenth century, the east chimney was enclosed within the house, while the west chimney remains on the exterior of the building. The exterior chimney on the south façade shown in the MIHP photograph did not appear to be standing during a recent field visit. The main entrance is in the north façade and has four lights in the transom above the door along with side lights in the surround. The shingles on the side gable roof are of composite asphalt. The attic windows in the north wing are 1 over 1 lights. There are several replacement windows in the upper story that are 6 over 6 double sash examples. Other windows are 2 over 2 double sash windows. The front porch extends across the three bays of the main pile. It has a composite shingle shed roof supported by 1940s or 1950s decorative metal posts. An enclosed porch with a hipped roof and louvered windows extends from the east façade across the width of the wing.

There are outbuildings which were not previously described in either the 1972 or the 1975 forms. Outbuildings include a wood barn with a metal side gable roof, a shed or corncrib with a metal side gable roof and four vents on the north side of the roof, and the building is on brick piers. The third agricultural building is a masonry silo with a low dome. Although the fields surrounding the house are plowed, the agricultural outbuildings are not in use and are in poor condition. The silo in particular is overgrown with weeds and vines. There are also two sheds and a garage immediately on the south side of the building. These are the same yellow color as the house and are in good repair.

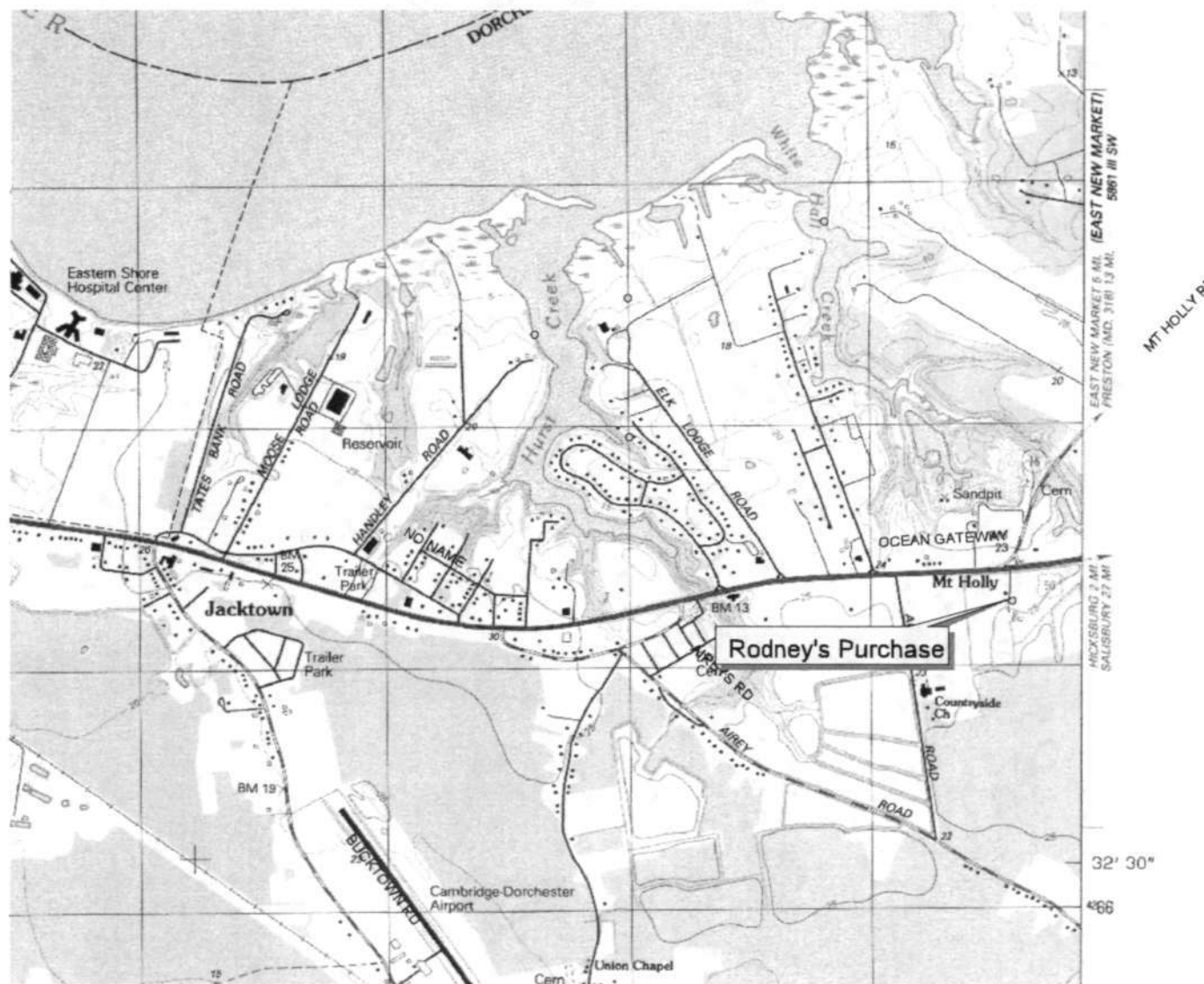
Prepared by Anne E. Bruder, Maryland State Highway Administration, Architectural Historian, June 23, 2006

D-108

Cambridge USGS Quadrangle

1:24,000

Historic Resource Location Map



- Maryland Inventory of Historic Places
- USGS Topo Quad Index
- Roads**
 - CO
 - IS
 - MD
 - OP
 - SR
 - US
 - MU
 - GV
 - County





D-108

Reddy's PURCHASE

GREENSTADT Co, MD

BRIDGE

Which 2015

LOOKING SOUTHWEST AT NORTH AND
WEST FALADES.

1/3



D-108

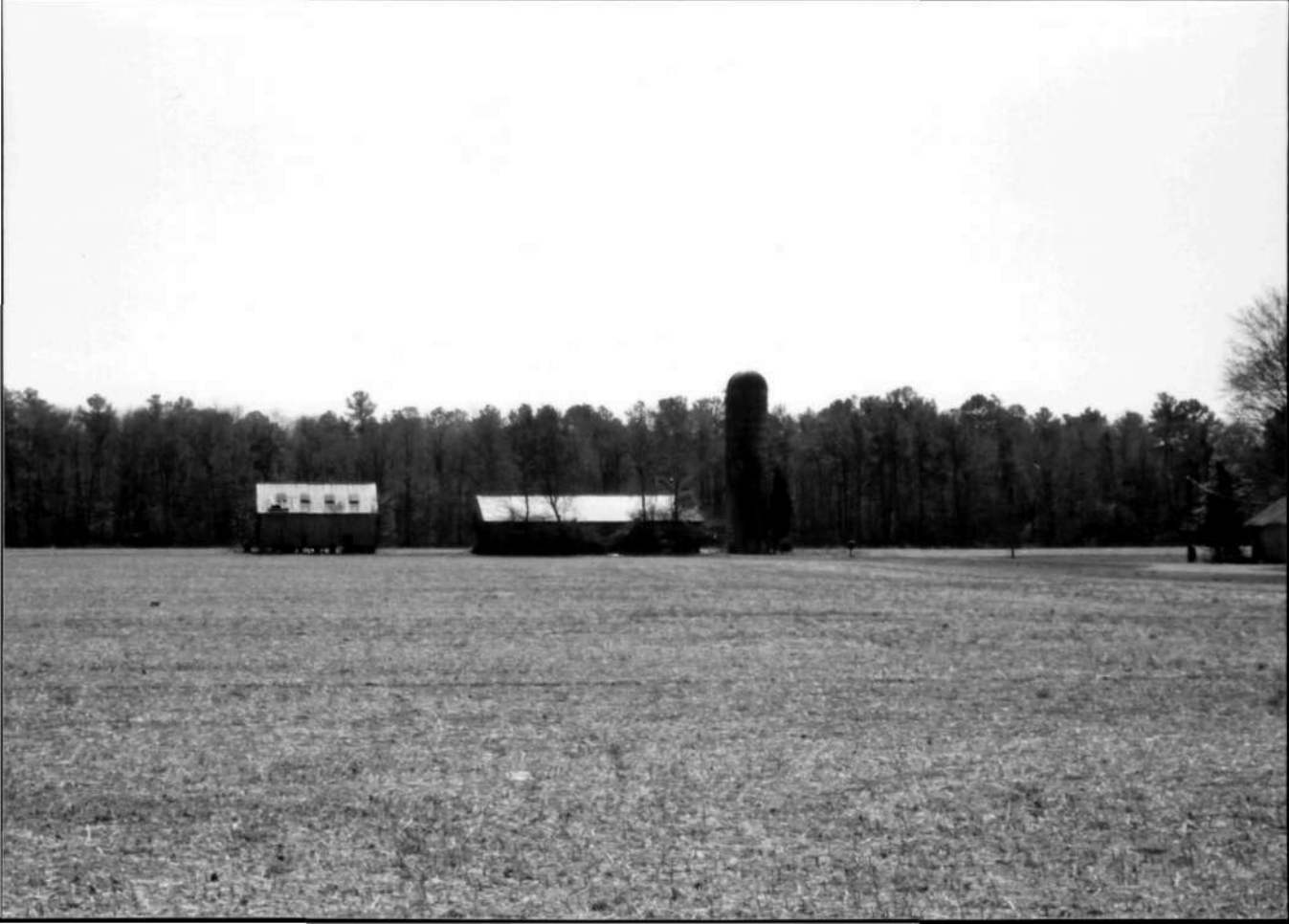
RODNEY'S PURCHASE
DORCHESTER CO., MA

PANDEA

MARCH 2006.

LOOKING SOUTHWEST AT EAST FACADE
OF GILFILLAN HOUSE

2/3



D-108

KORRAYS RUCHESS
DECEMBER 1991.

RENDER.

MARCH 2006

LOOKING SOUTH AT SAND, RAZING
SILLO.

3/3

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME					
COMMON:					
Rodney's Purchase					
AND/OR HISTORIC:					
2. LOCATION					
STREET AND NUMBER:					
Route 50 and Route 16					
CITY OR TOWN:					
Cambridge					
STATE:			COUNTY:		
Maryland			Dorchester		
3. CLASSIFICATION					
CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Site	<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private		<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress			
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious			
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific			
4. OWNER OF PROPERTY					
OWNER'S NAME:					
Medford E. Thomas					
STREET AND NUMBER:					
RFD 2					
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:		
Cambridge			Maryland		21613
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION					
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:					
Dorchester County Courthouse					
STREET AND NUMBER:					
High Street					
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:		
Cambridge			Maryland		21613
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #): 32/249					
6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS					
TITLE OF SURVEY:					
DATE OF SURVEY:					
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local					
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:					
STREET AND NUMBER:					
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:		

7. DESCRIPTION			
CONDITION	(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair
	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)		(Check One)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE			
<p>Rodney's Purchase is a two story Federal period frame dwelling which began life in the early nineteenth century as a two bay long structure to which there was probably a one story addition. The original part is the west portion of the building. Later in the nineteenth century either the one story was heightened or a new two story portion was built consisting on one room above another. Like the west end, this portion also had a brick chimney on its gable. The former chimney is exposed and has stepped shoulders above the second story fireplace. Even later, an ell was added onto the east gable. This wing is flush with the front of the house but protrudes about six feet beyond the rear wall. Its north gable contains a Gothic window.</p> <p>At the time the sash were changed in the main part of the house to 4/4 lights, the central door received side-lights and transom. On the south side of the second story, original sash still remains with 9/6 lights. A porch was also built along the north facade and on part of the east side.</p> <p>The entire structure is covered with yellow wood shingles. It stands on a foundation consisting of brick piers with concrete block fill between the piers.</p>			

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☐ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi- | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | losophy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human- | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | itarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The house is very similar in appearance and construction to Tanyard Farm near Salem. It is a good example of the development of vernacular forms of the nineteenth century and is more typical of the geographically higher part of the county.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES			
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NW	0	'	"	0	'	"		
NE	0	'	"	0	'	"		
SE	0	'	"	0	'	"		
SW	0	'	"	0	'	"		

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

11/72, 11/75

STREET AND NUMBER:

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN:

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

21401

12.

State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

1. STATE <u>Maryland</u> COUNTY <u>Dorchester</u> TOWN <u>Cambridge</u> VICINITY <u>mt Holly</u> STREET NO. <u>Rt 50 + Rt 16 (South)</u>		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY <u>D-108</u>	
ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE <u>dwelling</u> PRESENT OWNER <u>Edna M. Thomas -</u> PRESENT USE <u>dwelling</u> WALL CONSTRUCTION <u>frame</u> NO. OF STORIES <u>2</u>		2. NAME <u>Rodney's Purchase</u> DATE OR PERIOD <u>c. 1820 - 40</u> STYLE <u>Federal</u> ARCHITECT BUILDER	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION		3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	
<p>Rodney's Pruchase is a two story Federal frame dwelling house which started life as a three bay-long building with exterior brick chimneys. In the latter part of the 19th century, the house was lengthened with a two by long section added on its east end, at right angles to the main part creating an "L" plan house. At that time the sash were changed in the main part to four over four and the central door received sidelights and transom. On the south side the second floor sash still remains (9/6), although the first floor sash were changed to six over six. The entire structure is covered with yellow wood shingles and it stands on a foundation of brick piers with concrete block full between. There is a porch on the north and east sides of the house. The gable facing the road, in the added part, has a gothic window.</p>		OPEN TO PUBLIC <u>NO</u>	
		5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered <u>NO</u> Interior Exterior <u>fair</u>	
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)		7. PHOTOGRAPH	
3. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER <u>M&B</u> Michael O. Bourne Field Surveyor 2525 Riva Road Annapolis, Md. DATE OF RECORD <u>11/30/72</u>	

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

.18 X 1.75 75% D-103.



• Rodney's Purchase

D-108

M. Bourne Nov 1975